

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 have been examined as claims 4-6 are withdrawn from consideration in response to the Election of Species Requirement.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statements filed July 16, 2004, June 20, 2005 and March 18, 2004. Additionally, Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and accepting the formal drawings filed March 18, 2004.

Specification Objection

The Examiner objected to the specification recommending that the term “backlight” should be changed to “black light.”

In response, Applicants submit the present term “backlight” is merely referring to a light source for providing ultraviolet light to illuminate the probe. In contrast, “blacklight” is a narrow spectrum of ultraviolet light. Consequently, Applicants submit this objection is presently without basis. Additionally, amending the term in accord with the Examiner’s suggestion would unduly narrow the disclosure of the present specification.

Thus, Applicants submit this objection is in error and should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over TeleChem, in view of Lord (US 4,442,852) in further view of Ferrell (US 5,505,785). Applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

The Examiner contends TeleChem discloses most of the feature recited in claim 1, but concedes TeleChem fails to disclose “a clean container for containing cleaning solution or that

the ultrasonic vibration generator that is composed of a vibrator is provided with an internal room formed between the bottom of the cleaning container in the bottom of the external box, and secured to the outer bottom of the cleaning container; and an oscillator that is electrically connected with this vibrator and placed outside the external box.” (*Office Action*, p. 3).

However, Applicants respectfully submit that TeleChem, taken alone or in combination with Ferrell and Lord, fails to disclose, at least, “wherein the supporting member supports the fixing member above the cleaning solution such that a stylus portion of the probe pin is immersed in the cleaning solution,” as recited in claim 1.

In particular, TeleChem’s fixing member (*see* p.4) is not fixed above the cleaning solution, rather, TeleChem's pins are placed in a floatable pin cleaning rack. (p. 3, fig. 2). As illustrated in figure 2, this floating pin cleaning rack floats on the surface of the cleaning solution. Consequently, there is no supporting member which supports the floatable pin cleaning rack above the cleaning solution. Furthermore, because Ferrell and Lord fail to disclose any supporting member which supports a fixing member above a cleaning solution, even if TeleChem, Ferrell and Lord are combined as suggested by the Examiner, the suggested combination fails to disclose all the features recited in claim 1.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit claim 1 it is allowable for at least this reason. Additionally, Applicants submit claim 2 is allowable, at least by virtue of its dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 3 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over TeleChem in view of Ferrell and Lord, and in further view of Jackson (David P. Jackson, *Centrifugal Shear Carbon Dioxide Cleaning* (Precision Cleaning '95 Proceedings).

Applicants respectfully submit because Jackson, either taken alone or in combination with TeleChem, Ferrell and Lord, fails to compensate for the TeleChem/Ferrell/Lord combination as applied to claim 1, claim 3 is allowable, at least by virtue of its dependency.

New Claims

New claims 7-9 are hereby added by this Amendment. These claims are submitted to be allowable, at least for the same reasons set forth above with regard to claims 1, 2 and 3.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/David P. Emery/
David P. Emery
Registration No. 55,154

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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